

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 SEP 2004

To:
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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION

(PCT Rule 66)

		Date of Mailing (day/month/year) 12 FEB 2004
Applicant's or agent's file reference H0002492 PCT		REPLY DUE within 1 months/days from the above date of mailing
International application No. PCT/US02/15255	International filing date (day/month/year) 10 April 2002 (10.04.2002)	Priority date (day/month/year)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC IPC(7): H01L 21/316, 21/312; C08J 9/26; C09D 183/04, 183/02 and US Cl.: 427/243, 379, 387		
Applicant HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL, INC.		

1. This written opinion is the first (first, etc.) drawn by this International Preliminary Examining Authority.

2. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the opinion
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2 (a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

3. The applicant is hereby invited to reply to this opinion.

When? See the time limit indicated above. The applicant may, before the expiration of that time limit, request this Authority to grant an extension. See rule 66.2(d).

How? By submitting a written reply, accompanied, where appropriate, by amendments, according to Rule 66.3. For the form and the language of the amendments, see Rules 66.8 and 66.9.

Also For an additional opportunity to submit amendments, see Rule 66.4. For the examiner's obligation to consider amendments and/or arguments, see Rule 66.4 bis. For an informal communication with the examiner, see Rule 66.6.

If no reply is filed, the international preliminary examination report will be established on the basis of this opinion.

4. The final date by which the international preliminary examination report must be established according to Rule 69.2 is: 10 August 2004 (10.08.2004).

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US
Commissioner for Patents
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Authorized officer
Erma Cameron
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I. Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

the international application as originally filed

the description:
pages 1-30, as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____

the claims:
pages 31-38, as originally filed
pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____

the drawings:
pages NONE, as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____

the sequence listing part of the description:
pages NONE, as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the written opinion was drawn on the basis of the sequence listing:

contained in the international application in printed form.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages NONE
 the claims, Nos. NONE
 the drawings, sheets/fig. NONE

5. This opinion has been drawn as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this opinion as "originally filed."

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V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. STATEMENT

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-36, 40-41, 46</u>	YES
	Claims <u>37-39, 42-45</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>1-36, 40-41, 46</u>	YES
	Claims <u>37-39, 42-45</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-46</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 37-39 and 42-45 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by WO 01/86709. '709 teaches a composition comprising a porogen such as polyalkylene oxide in a silicon based precursor such as a combination of tetraacetoxysilane and methyltriacetoxysilane, that will be used to form a nanoporous dielectric film (see pages 11 and 15).

Claims 1-36, 40-41 and 46 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest producing a nanoporous silica dielectric film from a silicon precursor, a porogen, and a metal-ion-free catalyst that is either an onium compound or a nucleophile.

Claims 1-46 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

TIME LIMIT:

The time limit set for response to a Written Opinion may not be extended. 37 CFR 1.484(d). Any response received after the expiration of the time limit set in the Written Opinion will not be considered in preparing the International Preliminary Examination Report.